

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

  
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24 JUN 1963

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**MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director (Research)**

**SUBJECT : Functions of the Deputy Director for NRO**

**REFERENCE : Draft of Functions Prepared by Mr. Houston  
dtd 20 June 1963 (attached)**

1. The functions of the Deputy Director, NRO, as proposed by Mr. Houston are frightfully similar to those previously suggested by Colonel Martin on 10 May and equally unacceptable. By adopting the duties and functions as stated by Colonel Martin, and now reaffirmed by Mr. Houston, we would merely be perpetuating the situation which has made the NRO an organizational failure to date.

2. Throughout the long list of functions as Mr. Houston has suggested, the Deputy Director is clearly, and we fear solely, identified with CIA activities. Actually, the functions as stated in reference more nearly describe the duties and responsibilities of the Director, Program B than they do those of the Deputy Director, whose interest and responsibility should range over the entire spectrum of NRO activities and mirror the joint partnership, which by charter the NRO is destined to be.

3. We find it improper for the Deputy to take the initiative in "keeping fully and currently informed as to all activities of the NRP," as opposed to being "kept fully informed," i. e. by the NRO organization itself.

4. Rather than engage in the exercise of dissecting the proposed draft we will list the functions of the Deputy Director as we feel they

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should be; general enough to permit blanket authority under the Director and over the entire National Reconnaissance Program, yet specific enough to ensure that such authority be recognized by the components of the NRO organization.

a. The Deputy Director will be an integral part of the National Reconnaissance Office, in the chain of command directly under the Director and over the Staff, Comptroller, Program Directors and various other components which may form the NRO. The entire NRO organization should look upon the Deputy as the "alter ego" of the Director, possessing his full power and authority.

b. The Deputy Director should be kept informed, as the Director, on all NRO matters.

c. Although specifically charged with supervising the relations between the NRO and the United States Intelligence Board and its subcommittees, and the intelligence exploitation community, the Deputy may call upon the Director as necessary in such dealings.

d. Supervise all NRP tasks assigned by the DNRO to the various Program Directors.

e. Act for, and exercise the powers of, the DNRO during his absence or disability.

5. We submit that, at this time, there is greater advantage in establishing the broad authority of the Deputy without definitizing every aspect of his responsibility, and await developments before further refining his specific functions.

6. It also should be noted that the NRO agreement presently in effect must be amended to permit some of the functions and duties of the Deputy as stated above.

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(Signed) JAC\O\X\A

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**JACK C. AEDFORE**

Colonel USAF - 8

Assistant Director

(S4 June 63)

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